

Serving the 3rd Infantry Division, the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

2/34 Armor joins with 3rd Bde.

Pvt. James E. Lewis
Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — “We’re not being treated like the red-headed stepchildren; we’re fully integrated into the 3rd Brigade ...,” said Lt. Col. Oscar J. Hall IV, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment commander, on the assimilation of his unit into 3rd Bde.

This rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center marks the first time that the Fort Riley, Kansas-based, armor unit has worked with 3rd Bde., and Hall couldn’t be more pleased with the way things are working out.

“This is a great opportunity,” he said. “As the Army transforms down this road of unit of actions, taking a battalion and plugging it seamlessly into a brigade, or using a “plug and play” concept, it’s making the Army that much more lethal.”

As pleased as Hall is with his units integration into 3rd Bde., he is just as pleased with the training it is receiving at JRTC. It’s a world-class training facility, he said. The amount of resources, time, effort and synchronization that goes on here is incredible.



Pvt. James E. Lewis

See ARMOR, Page 6A Soldiers from 2/34 Armor rehearse loading and unloading operations with a .50 caliber machine gun.

Good training waits for ready minds at TSIRT

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson
Staff Writer

When it comes to training your unit for Operation Iraqi Freedom, you know that corners simply cannot be cut. It is essential to make sure each Soldier is well armed with the knowledge and hands-on experience he needs to do his job safely and efficiently in the field.

Training normally follows the same routine, and many of the “same old” informational classes could be rather boring for Soldiers and end up being more detrimental for morale than they are helpful.

The good news is you may have more choices than you think.

About eight miles down the road from Gate 3 is Evans Army Airfield, and one of Fort Stewart’s best-kept secrets. It’s the site of Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training, which, like its name implies, exists to prepare Soldiers for the

field.

The site, once used to train for efforts in Bosnia and Kosovo, now focuses on getting troops ready for OIF3 in just about every possible way. The grounds include such training devices as mine and countermine pits, vehicle search areas, nine line medevac training, media awareness classes and squad-led training lanes, just to name a few.

TSIRT also offers the three briefings that are now mandatory for each Soldier to take — the anti-terrorism, improvised explosive devices and country briefings. These, as well as the other classes that can be taken at TSIRT, are conducted in one of four air-conditioned classrooms.

The classrooms have full multimedia capability, said Charles Helton, TSIRT lead instructor and retired sergeant first class. And they don’t have to be used for OIF3-related training. Units that wish to use

the facilities can bring whatever software they want to use, and the TSIRT staff will load it up into the PowerPoint system.

“This is a great place to come and conduct your training,” Helton said. “It’s comfortable, and it gets you away from the flagpole.”

Three of the rooms can hold up to 70 people each, and one larger classroom holds up to 100.

The TSIRT facilities, indoor and outdoor, are available to any unit that wishes to use them. The staff sends interested units a draft training schedule listing all the site offers, and the unit can pick and choose which ones in which it would like to participate, Helton said.

In addition to all the means of training available at TSIRT, the site also has “rubber duck” weapons on hand, so there is no need for units to draw and bring along their own weapons. Ice water, latrines, and a variety of training aids are also supplied

for Soldiers. The only thing units need to provide is lunch.

“The Soldiers love this. It’s all they’ve been talking about,” said Capt. David P. Harvie, C Battery, 1/30 FA (MLRS) commander.

C Btry. spent three days training at TSIRT last week, using the facilities for their quarterly battalion green week training, which is dedicated to teaching tasks most critical to the battery, Harvie said.

Their focus this quarter at TSIRT was force protection, honing in on things they would have to do in Iraq. Although the unit is not slated to deploy, it has sent Soldiers as replacements to deploying units. And it’s good to be prepared just in case things change, he said.

“This is something new for them. They’re keenly interested; they know this is something they can use in the future, Harvie said.

The unit was learning

See TSIRT, Page 2A



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

As fellow Soldiers of C Btry., 1/39 FA look on, Pfc. Kelley Parks demonstrates how to properly search clothing .

WARNING: Hurricane Alert

The Installation went to HURCON Level 5 at 111200L August 2004 with Tropical Storms Bonnie and Charley predictions. The Fort Stewart Hurricane Plan FS Reg 500-2 can be found on the Fort Stewart Intranet. A Frago is being prepared to make the outdated 500-2 IAW the new Division organizations.

Soldiers learn self-defense in line training

Pvt Dan Balda
Staff writer

For the last couple of weeks, members of the 703rd Forward Support Battalion, have been waking up in time to make formation at 4 a.m. outside their company.

If you had bothered to wake up that early and put on your full battle dress uniform with boots and head down to the softball field next to their unit you might have a better understanding of why these Soldiers chose to exhaust themselves day after day.

These Soldiers learned the finer points of a style of self-defense called line training.

There are six aspects to line training; counters to chokes, punches and kicks, ground fighting, edge weapon attacks, knife fighting and neutralization of personnel, said Ron Don Vito, inventor and primary instructor of this system.

Normally, Soldiers in an infantry unit would be learning how to disable their opponents but in this case members of a support unit are leaning how to defend themselves.




“This is important for stability

and support operation units such as the 703rd because we are going to be in the middle of the desert just like everybody else,” said Maj. Eddie Gillon, 4th Brigade Unit of Action support operations officer and the person who invited Vito to come and teach some of his Soldiers this skill.

“My personal mission is to give these loggies a chance to deploy, fight and win with the knowledge they have gained in this class,” Gillon said.

See LINE, Page 6A

Weather Forecast

FRI		
High		Low
86°		70°
SAT		
High		Low
90°		70°
SUN		
High		Low
89°		70°

News



Training sinks in at TSIRT 2A

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Photos by Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Charles Helton, TSIRT lead instructor, demonstrates searching personnel techniques Soldiers will need when they encounter an enemy.

TSIRT

From page 1A

hands-on how to conduct vehicle searches, personnel searches, and patrolling Aug. 5, and had done anti-terrorism training the day before.

"It's definitely something different for the Soldiers. This training is the big talk of the town at the battery," said 1st Sgt. John A. Durocher, C Btry, 1/39 FA.

"We'll be coming back in a few months for refresher training, to maintain what they have learned here," he said.

"This is the first time I've been out here," Harvie said. "But we've been excited about it since we first heard about it."

One of the most unique training areas at the TSIRT site, Helton pointed out, is the training lanes area. These are lanes which are about 600 meters long that run through the woods.

They can be used to simulate mines and booby traps, and are commonly used for squad-led training. TSIRT can replicate civilians along the path — it's up to the training unit whether these "civilians" are hostile or friendly. There are costumes and several props available to make the simulations as real as possible, Helton said.

There are obstacles to negotiate on the path as well, and locations which can be used as ammo or supply points.

There are countless opportunities for units that wish to use the



Soldiers of C Btry., 1/39 FA listen closely to Helton's instruction on how to conduct personnel searches.

lanes or any of the training facilities, he said. The devices are utilized on a case-by-case basis, depending on what the unit wants to do.

D Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment was also at the TSIRT site August 5, doing the anti-terrorism brief.

"This is a new company. It's all tankers who are going over to Iraq as an infantry unit. We do a lot of our training here," said 1st Sgt. Joseph Bulick, 3/7th Inf.

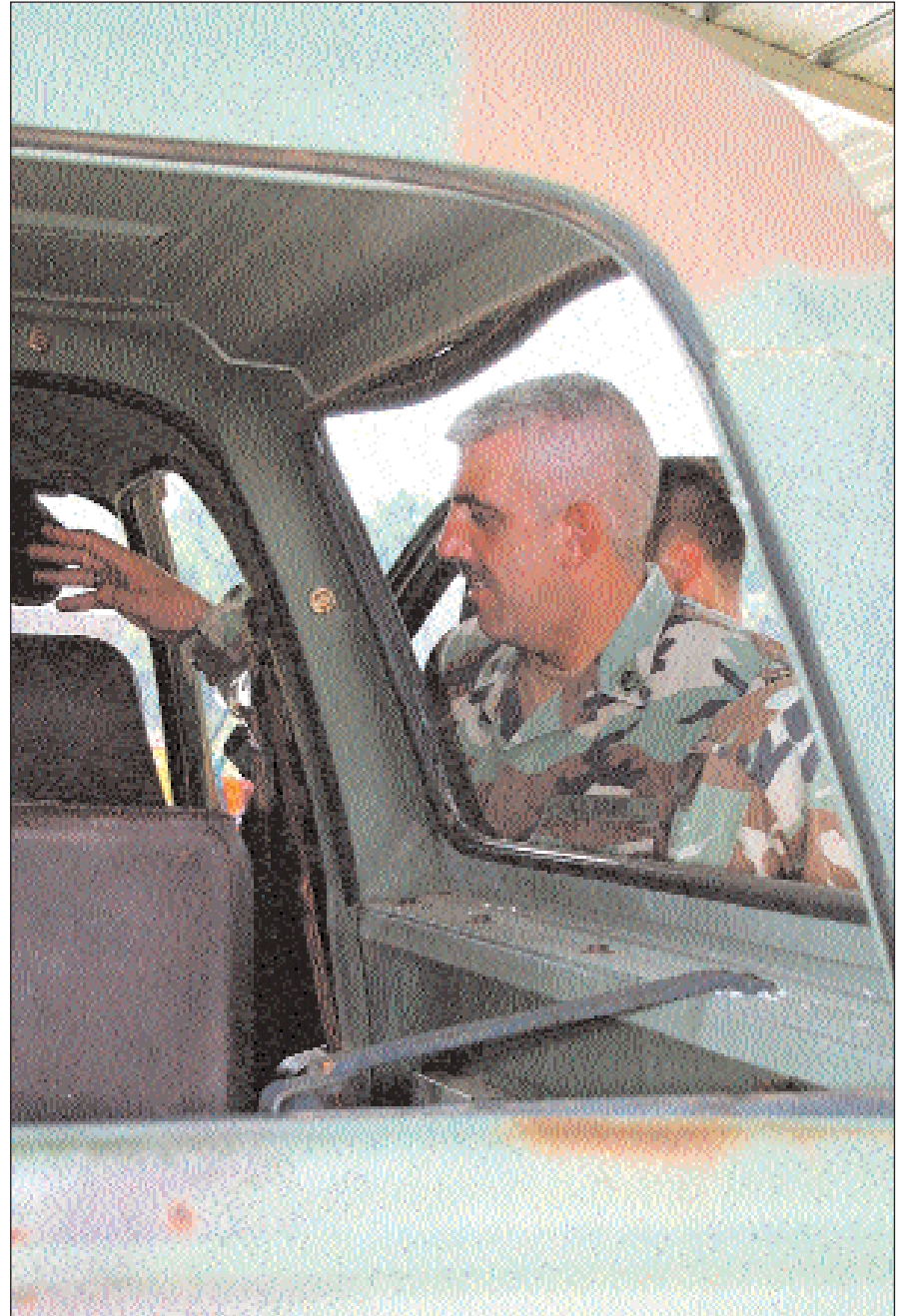
"We have trained on entering and clearing buildings, vehicle searching, anti-terrorism and reacting to contact. We come out here on a regular basis. The Soldiers are learning," he said.

All the instructors at TSIRT are retired senior noncommissioned officers, so they understand what kinds of constraints units are under, Helton said.

"We have a little bit of everything; there are very few things we cannot do here," he said. "But if we can't do it, we know someone on post who can."

Units can use the site without the help of TSIRT facilitators, if they like. However, raining must be scheduled either way.

To schedule training time at TSIRT or to get more information on the facilities, call Charles Helton at 370-7490 or William Cassell, the site manager, at 370-7493.



Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Riggs performs a vehicle search, acting as a suspected enemy soldier at Evans Field Aug. 5.



Beginning with the arms, Helton demonstrates searching personnel with an apprehensive Pfc. Walter Borrmann.



Borrmann is "caught" with a potentially explosive device — his cell phone — during a personnel search.

DFAC holds high standards to meet Soldiers needs

Pvt. James E. Lewis

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — When Staff Sgt. Elliot Johnson first joined the Army seven years ago as a food service technician, he thought he was going to have an easy time.

“Really, I thought I was picking an easy job in the Army,” said Johnson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Unit of Action food service noncommissioned officer in charge. “I was in for a rude awakening.”

Often getting up for work at 4 a.m., his workday usually ends at 9 p.m.

“With the long hours we work, it’s really hard,” Elliot said. “As long as I’ve been in the Army, I’ve never had a Thanksgiving day off. The dining facility has to stay open 365 days a year.”

When not preparing meals or meticulously cleaning the kitchen, Elliot and his staff can be found unloading trucks full of food or picking up rations.

“We have inspectors from the installation food service come by all the time to make sure the food is prepared right and at the proper temperature even while serving,” Elliot said. “Food veterinarian inspectors stop by frequently to make sure the DFAC has no rodents and to make sure certain foods stay at temperatures they’re supposed to be at.”

“The most important thing for any kitchen is cleanliness,” said Jeremiah Davis, first cook at the DFAC. “Everyone in the kitchen has to wear gloves, whether serving, cooking or cleaning. We make sure the person is clean, and the food is

clean.”

If all the inspections they go through seem like a lot, there’s still one more that matters the most to Elliot: the customer’s inspection.

“Our mission is basically a constant job,” he said. “We get unofficial inspections every day by the Soldiers we serve, three times a day, 365 days a year. They let us know how the food is after every meal.

“If the food isn’t good, trust me, they let us know,” Elliot said with a smile.

Presentation plays a large part in how Soldiers perceive the facility in which they eat as well, Davis said.

“Smiling when you greet the Soldiers at the door is important,” he said. “You don’t want to frown or roll your eyes when someone comes through the door. If a cook has a nasty disposition than that means his food is probably nasty, too.”

The DFAC also wants to ensure that Soldiers get the proper nutrition they need, Elliot added.

“We serve every food group that a person needs in their diet: bread, starches, meat, juice. We supply Soldiers with everything they need nutritionally to help them carry out their missions,” he said.

“I really do love my job,” Elliot said. “I wouldn’t want to do anything else. For me, the best part of my job is knowing that the Soldiers I’m responsible for feeding are getting the best possible meal that I can give them.

“I just want people to know that food service is not an easy job at all,” he said. “It’s really under appreciated. We do our best to give Soldiers a quality meal every time they come in.”



Pvt. James E. Lewis

Jeremiah Davis, DFAC cook, prepares french toast for Soldiers at JRTC.

Services help provide spiritual support to Soldiers

Sgt. R. James Piper

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — Soldiers at the Joint Readiness Training Center now have the chance to worship every night of the week in addition to Sunday mornings at two locations providing non-denominational Christian services to Soldiers of all faiths.

Chaplain (Maj.) Harry Rauch, 3rd Brigade Unit of Action chaplain, said they set up two locations so both the forward support battalion, corps support group, srt maneuver-unit Soldiers would have services near their areas of operation.

“As chaplains, this is why we’re out here — to meet the religious

needs of Soldiers. Soldiers need the gospel as much as civilians do,” said Chaplain (Capt.)

Tommie Pickens, 203rd FSB Chaplain

“The services give an opportunity for Soldiers to worship God, seek out Christian fellowship, and to encouraged through scripture, the message and Christian songs,” Rauch said.

He continued, “The Christian fellowship gives an opportunity for Christian soldiers to pray for one another and encourage one another through their faith.”

“My belief is man is made up of four parts ...”

Chaplain (Maj) Harry Rauch
3rd Bde.

sense of relief and gives us spiritual reassurance,” said Sgt. Cappaicino Adams, B Company, 203rd FSB.

As with every section in the Army, chaplains begin planning before a deployment and continues once boots hit the ground so they will be able to provide services to soldiers. The strategy is no matter where they go they will be ready to provide worship opportunities to Soldiers.

“There is a lot of hard training going on here so it helps keep us motivated. It gives a sense of relief and gives us spiritual reassurance,” said Sgt. Cappaicino Adams, B Company, 203rd FSB.

Adams said when he’s been to field training and different rotations, such as the National Training Center and JRTC, there has always been services for the Soldiers

Rauch said, “In Iraq, what we bring is what we got. Within the brigade, we have all Christian chaplains. So if we have a Soldier of a different faith, we will do our best to accommodate their religious needs.”

Using Islam as an example he explained that they meet traditionally on Friday for services so

the chaplains would help them find a location and the time needed for services or religious study.

Rauch said, “My belief is man is made up of four parts: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. Those four parts make up a person whole, and they all have to be kept fit. If one gets out of balance, life becomes unbalanced.”

He added, “People sometimes neglect their spiritual side and don’t tap into a source of strength that is there for them. Uplifting them spiritually (through worship) addresses the spiritual side of the house. We want to at least provide the resources for Soldiers to make that happen.”

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

New moves set Army's stage for stronger, combat-ready force

R.L. Brownlee and
Gen. Peter J.
Schoomaker

Army News Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5, 2004 — The last few weeks have seen a lot of discussion — much of it confusing or inaccurate — about the condition and future readiness of the U.S. Army.

We owe it to our men and women in uniform, their families, and our country to get the facts right.

No one disputes that there are currently strains on certain segments of our armed forces.

A solution some offer is to increase the permanent end strength of our Army.

But simply adding to the total number of people in uniform does not really get to the heart of the problem.

Let us explain.

Today our Army has a total force of more than 1 million Soldiers.

Yet the vast majority of our Army is not currently deployed.

Approximately 123,000 — or less than 12 percent of the total force — support operations in Iraq or Afghanistan.

In fact, 123,000 members of the 350,000-strong Army National Guard have not been called up.

Overall, 270,000 Soldiers are forward deployed in more than 120 countries, but with a total force in excess of 1 million, this should not stretch the force.

Yet, it does. The strain on the force is caused by a force structure that was built for the Cold War.

The solution to the problem is to create the right number of deployable Soldiers with the right skills in the right compo-

ment.

This is why Army transformation is so critical.

And so today, our Army is in the midst of the most sweeping transformation since World War II.

The Army is significantly increasing the number of deployable Soldiers and units available around the world.

Army transformation is proceeding along three main avenues.

First, we are restructuring the force into modular formations with the right capabilities for our current and future security environment.

This restructuring increases the number of active-duty combat brigades from 33 to 43 or more, using a combination of new recruits and

Soldiers drawn from other parts of our Army. Our goal is an Army with more cohesive and combat-ready formations.

Second, we are stabilizing the force with initiatives that will eventually allow most Soldiers to remain based at a single installation for longer periods of time.

Stabilization will yield a more predictable lifestyle for our Soldiers and their families.

Third, we are rebalancing our force between the active component of the Army, the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve.

This initiative will give our Army more troops available with the skills we need to fight the Global War on Terrorism.

The Department of Defense is expanding our active Army rapidly without sacrificing standards or quality, using emergency authorities.

And we plan to grow the

active component of the Army by a total of 30,000 troops over the next three years.

It is important to note the difference between growing our Army — a temporary measure granted under the Global War on Terrorism authorities and paid for with supplemental dollars — and increasing permanent end strength.

A mandated increase in permanent end strength means that the U.S. Army would be required by law to maintain tens of thousands of additional troops on the payrolls, regardless of the need or the cost, and pay for them out of the Army's core budget.

A mandated increase in permanent end strength would take away dollars needed for current and future programs, and threaten our transformation.

We are already growing our Army about as fast as we can.

Our Soldiers are highly skilled and well trained, and it takes time and a significant training base to develop them. This deliberate growth will allow us to transform our Army in a way that gets at the heart of the problem, relieves the stress on the force, and does not sacrifice our Army's future.

We are able to grow our Army today because retention and recruiting remain very strong.

Despite the obvious dangers, hardships, and sacrifices, tens of thousands of qualified Soldiers choose to join or stay in the U.S. Army every year.

In the active Army, Reserves and National Guard, we are meeting our retention goals for this fiscal year. We are also close

to meeting our recruitment targets, even as our Army increased those recruiting targets by several thousand this year.

Transforming the force while fighting in Iraq, Afghanistan and other theaters in the war on terror is a tough management and leadership challenge. It is not unlike tuning an engine while the car is moving — complex, and potentially dangerous.

But when large organizations face demanding new circumstances, they must change to meet those challenges.

Our circumstances today, as an Army serving our nation at war, are providing a tremendous strategic opportunity.

The convergence of our current momentum, our focus and the increased resources provided by Congress, over our core budget, in this time of war provide an opportunity for change that we cannot afford to miss.

Simply stated, we have an ambitious task ahead, but with the continued support of the American people, we will get it done.

As we overcome these challenges, our all-volunteer Army of active, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers are serving with tremendous skill and courage around the world.

We are honored to serve with each and every one of them.

Rest assured that our Army is not only taking actions to be successful today, but we are seizing an opportunity to remain relevant and ready tomorrow.

Editor's note: R.L. Brownlee is the acting secretary of the Army. Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker is chief of staff of the Army.

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What do you think about tobacco use in the workplace?

"I don't think it should be allowed; it's bad for your health."

Sgt. Shawn Jenkins
B Co., 603rd ASB



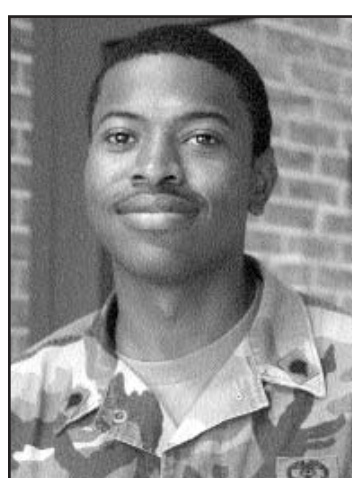
"I don't agree with it ... not everyone smokes, and dip is just nasty."

Sgt. Tonya Duff
HHB, Div. Fire Bde.



"I don't like it, not any kind of tobacco."

Spc. Matthew White
C Co., 703rd FSB



"I don't mind smokers, but I think they should do it on their own time, not during work hours."

Laura M. Smith
Military spouse



"I don't think I should have to be subjected to it ... the smell of smokeless tobacco makes me sick; finding dip cups all over is nasty."

2nd Lt. Scott Stephens
6/8 Cav.



"I think it should be banned altogether; it's a health risk to those who use it and everyone around them."

April Henderson-Ciancio
Military spouse



Jennifer's Jabberings



Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

It's time for me to fess up. I am an addict! But not to drugs or alcohol, as is so often the first thought.

Most of my family and many of friends know of my plight. Some shake their heads in distaste to my addictions. Others are in awe, some disbelief.

Let me explain.

Okra!!! I love it. Fried, with or without the batter. With tomatoes. On a bed of hot steaming white rice. Or cooked alone in a cast iron skillet with olive oil. Ummm, yumm. I recently came off an okra binge. I had the good green stuff for breakfast. Then lunch was okra and tomatoes. And finally for dinner. I endured the looks of distaste from my son. My mom remained in disbelief that okra was all I had consumed for two days.

Another addiction is oysters. Naturally steamed or boiled with milk, butter, and lemon pepper. Another yummy delight. But then if they have to be diluted, then give me an oyster fritter. Or during Thanksgiving, I'll have the oyster dressing instead of the traditional

Commentary

bird dressings.

When it comes to ice cream, vanilla is the flavor of choice. Oh, I've tried the fudge triple ripple, caramel dream cream, vanilla crunch mint julep, and so on. But I still prefer plain vanilla. If I want to make it into a nut crunch chocolate, I can do that on my own. I remember a few years ago when I was in my 20's (well maybe a bit more than a few), I went on a vanilla ice cream diet. Yes, like an addict, I had the stuff for breakfast, lunch, and dinner for a whole week. And I did lose weight! My metabolism was really high back then so I didn't retain any side effects. Ah, the days of youth. Needless to say, such a diet today would see me adding on much more postage to the package I have today.

Now one might think that all my addictions are with food. Not so, I tell you. Anyone who knows me (and even some who don't) soon realizes that I love cats. Alive or inanimate, in any form or fashion. Step into my feline world and you'll find cat towels, sheets, stationery, folders, ink pens, backpacks, posters, mugs, glasses, clothes,

shoes, hats, jewelry and wallpaper. I'm always looking and accepting more cat related items to add to my repertoire. Yet, I still have folks trying to dissuade my feline addiction to a canine one. It's not going to happen!

And as time permits, I love to go to open-air markets. I got hooked on those when I was stationed in Brunsum, The Netherlands several years ago. In the US they are better known as flea markets. You're likely to see me at one in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. or Columbia, S.C., or on a long weekend, in Alexandria, Va.

My only problem exists in the price haggling, of which I cannot bring myself to do. The way I look at it is, if that's the price they want, that's usually the price I pay. I just hate it when sellers ask me what do I want to give them. At times like this, it's good to have my friend with me who will offer the bare minimum, and usually makes the sale.

So there you have it.

For those who are so inclined, to partake in the illegal consummations of the world, I suggest replacing them with okra, oysters, vanilla ice cream, and flea markets. It only makes sense.

THE FRONTLINE

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Personal vehicles ... Avoid dangers while refueling

Spc. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

Refueling is a routine performed by Americans daily with little concern.

Though accidents rarely occur, people should be aware of the dangers that can arise while pumping fuel into their gas tank or external container.

“Fueling is an inherently dangerous operation that we perform daily and we take for granted,” said Jeff Willis, division safety specialist. “Patrons need to focus on the operation at hand to avoid any hazards.”

Before removing the nozzle, be aware of the all possible dangers by reading over the warning signs posted above every gas pump.

“These warnings signs are posted to address safety issues to protect the patron,” said Chuck Fitzpatrick, division safety specialist.

Also, before fueling, remove all distractions that could impede one’s judgment or ability to safely fuel, like the use of a cell phone.

While there has never been a confirmed incident of a refueling fire caused by using a cell phone during refueling, it’s best to give your full attention to the fueling process and minimize distractions like cell phones can cause, according to an American Petroleum Institute press release.

The danger most people don’t know about is that the build-up of static electricity can cause a fire. These accidents are extremely rare, but by taking proper precautions the opportunity for a fire to occur will never present itself.

Static electricity may build up when someone re-enters their vehicle during fueling and slides across the seat. When the motorist returns to the nozzle, the static may discharge at the fill point, potentially igniting gasoline vapors and causing a flash or a small sustained fire.

This problem can be avoided by staying outside the vehicle at all times while refueling.

If it is necessary to reenter the vehicle during refueling, be sure to discharge any static that may have built up by touching a metal part of the vehicle before touching the nozzle.

The average fill-up takes only two minutes, and staying outside the vehicle will greatly reduce the likelihood of any static electricity buildup, according to the API press release.

If a fire does start while refueling, leave the nozzle in the pipe of the vehicle and back away. This will prevent any fire from becoming much more dangerous.

When filling a portable container, make sure it is on the ground and not in the bed of the truck. Also remember to

always keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the container.

The insulating effect of the bed liner or carpet prevents the static charge generated by gasoline flowing into the container or other sources from grounding, according to a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health press release. The discharge of this buildup to the grounded gasoline dispenser nozzle may cause a spark and ignite the gasoline. Both ungrounded metal and

plastic gas containers have been involved in these incidents.

Static electricity-caused fires at the pump are extremely rare. In fact, Americans pump gasoline into their cars an estimated 11 to 12 billion times a year, generally without incident, according to the API press release.

Fitzpatrick said, “The key thing is to pump and get out, because it can get congested at times in and around a gas station, which is a highly dangerous area.”

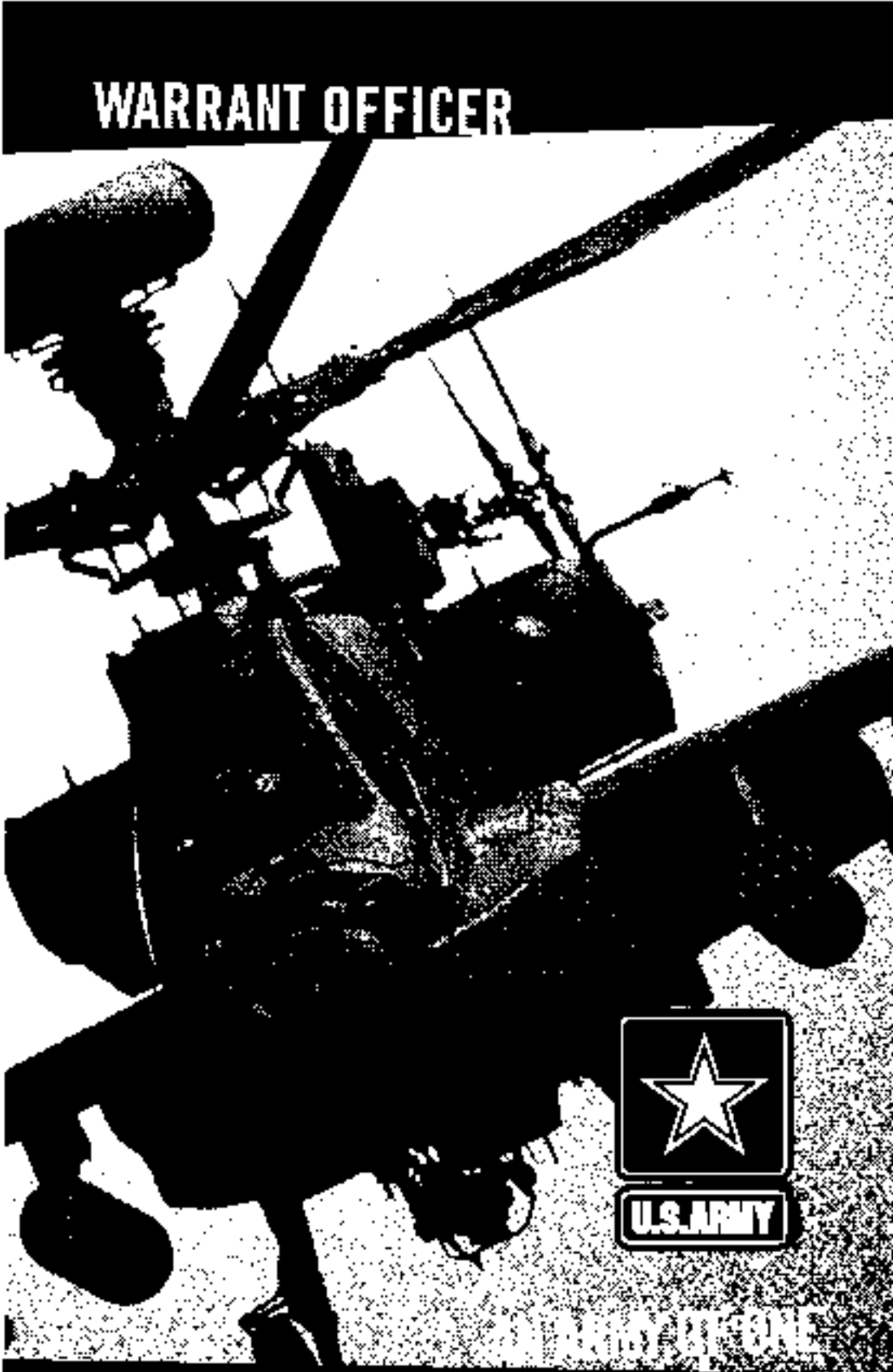
Safe Refueling and Fuel Handling Guidelines for Consumers

Refueling Safety guidelines:

- Turn off your vehicle engine. Put your vehicle in park and/or set the emergency brake. Disable or turn off any auxiliary sources of ignition such as a camper or trailer heater, cooking units, or pilot lights.
- Do not smoke, light matches or lighters while refueling at the pump or when using gasoline anywhere else.
- Use only the refueling latch provided on the gasoline dispenser nozzle. Never jam the refueling latch on the nozzle open.
- Do not re-enter your vehicle during refueling. If you cannot avoid re-entering your vehicle, discharge any static build-up BEFORE reaching for the nozzle by touching something metal with a bare hand — such as the vehicle door — away from the nozzle.)
- In the unlikely event a static-caused fire occurs when refueling, leave the nozzle in the fill pipe and back away from the vehicle. Notify the station attendant immediately.

Portable container safety guidelines

- When dispensing gasoline into a container, use only an approved portable container and place it on the ground to avoid a possible static electricity ignition of fuel vapors. Containers should never be filled while inside a vehicle or its trunk, the bed of a pickup truck or the floor of a trailer.
 - When filling a portable container, manually control the nozzle valve throughout the filling process. Fill a portable container slowly to decrease the chance of static electricity buildup and minimize spilling or splattering. Keep the nozzle in contact with the rim of the container opening while refueling.
 - Fill container no more than 95 percent full to allow for expansion.
 - Place cap tightly on the container after filling — do not use containers that do not seal properly.
 - Only store gasoline in approved containers as required by federal or state authorities. Never store gasoline in glass or any other unapproved container.
 - If gasoline spills on the container, make sure that it has evaporated before you place the container in your vehicle.Report spills to the attendant.
 - When transporting gasoline in a portable container make sure it is secured against tipping and sliding, and never leave it in direct sunlight or in the trunk of a car.
- Additional safety guidelines:
- Do not over-fill or top-off your vehicle tank, which can cause gasoline spillage.
 - Never allow children under licensed driving age to operate the pump.
 - Avoid prolonged breathing of gasoline vapors. Use gasoline only in open areas that get plenty of fresh air. Keep your face away from the nozzle or container opening.
 - Never siphon gasoline by mouth nor put gasoline in your mouth for any reason. Gasoline can be harmful or fatal if swallowed. If someone swallows gasoline, do not induce vomiting. Contact a doctor or and emergency medical service provider immediately.
 - Keep gasoline away from your eyes and skin; it may cause irritation. Remove gasoline-soaked clothing immediately.
 - Use gasoline as a motor fuel only. Never use gasoline to wash your hands or as a cleaning solvent.



There's never been a better time to be a Warrant Officer. APPLY NOW! Be a technical expert in one of 45 specialties. Available in Criminal Investigation, Military Intelligence, Special Forces, Maintenance Management and other specialties. Aviator is open to all enlisted ranks and MCSs. Go to www.usarec.army.mil/warrant

LINE

from page 1A

The class started with 32 Soldiers and has shrunk to 27 participants with Soldiers either bowing out because of the exertion or other extenuating circumstances such as leaving for temporary duty, Gillon said.

Vito invented line training in 1977 while serving in the Marine Corps. The Army Special Forces and the 82nd Airborne unit have both adopted his training as their primary method of self-defense.

Vito sought the expertise of forensic pathologists in hopes of finding the easiest way to severely damage various parts of human anatomy, he said.

"I started teaching this because the military has special needs when it comes to teaching their troops how to defend themselves," Vito said. "You have to be able to do this in the dark, in full combat gear, while being outnumbered and under extreme physical and mental stress. You also have to take your opponent out of the fight permanently."

"The Soldier has to focus on each little piece they learn piece by piece," Vito said. "If you focus on the light at the end of the tunnel, the light might be a train."

Throughout the training the Soldier works at full speed with full contact. They keep their boots on because as Vito said, "combat does not happen when you are wearing your running shoes with your BDU's."

"Professional fighters have it easy," Vito said. "They know who, what and when they are going to fight and they can quit when they want to. That kind of stuff doesn't happen on the battlefield."

"We push Soldiers as far as possible and we still manage to have less injuries even though the training is so violent," Vito said.

"Every Soldier out here is eligible for a profile if they chose to because the training is so hard," Gillon said.

When the Soldiers finish their three and a half weeks of training they will be qualified to pass on what they have learned to their battle buddies.

"Every successful graduate from the instructor course feels compelled to share what they have learned with their fellow Soldiers because the program works," Gillon said.

Because of the repetition involved in



Pvt. Dan Balda

Spc. Deanna Klein defends herself from a choking attack during line training.

the training it is very easy to remember what one has been taught even if they have been out of practice for a while, she said.

"I took six months off with no practice whatsoever but as soon as I began training with this unit again I remembered everything," Gillon said. "The muscle memory is burned so deep and the moves are so easy that it is very easy to remember."

In 1989, the Marine Corps adopted line training as its' primary form of self defense.

After going step by step through the basic maneuvers, Soldiers practice in what is called a swarm, Vito said.

Picture a kung-fu movie where the antagonists circle around the hero and take turns trying to beat him senseless. Feet and fists fly but the hero still manages to beat them off and win the girl. The swarm training is exactly like this except the participants are not fighting to save the world, rather they are practicing to save their own lives. A number of attackers circle around the Soldier and attack one at a time. Sometimes they attempt to choke the Soldier, other times they try a headlock. Either way the Soldier being attacked has no clue what technique they will have to defend

against.

The swarm can be as quick as five minutes or as long as the Soldier takes to use every technique they have learned correctly. At the end of the iteration, it is common to see the Soldier fall over, chest heaving, trying to collect any scrap of oxygen they can get in their lungs because they are so tired.

"It's important for the Soldier to be able to work their hardest when they are tired, because of the situations they might have to use this in," Vito said.

"It's competitive and exhausting," said Spc. Deanna Klein, Nuclear Biological and Chemical 703rd noncommissioned officer. "It uses every bit of everything you've learned from Mr. Vito. I didn't think I could ever finish the swarm but now I can handle myself very well."

"I've become a lot more confident in myself," said Klein. "Especially with the deployment coming up. Just let someone get their hands on me."

There are other benefits to the system, according to Vito. Some of the benefits are unit cohesion and motivation, Soldiers can see how they will react to physical and mental stress and once they pass they final section they can teach these classes anywhere at anytime.

85th Annual Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Reunion Hyatt Regency, Savannah

Monday, Aug. 30

0900-1100 Business Meeting
1000-1200 Ladies Luncheon
(Brunch)
1200-1400 Board Meeting
1730-1830 Cocktails/Photos
1830-1845 Welcoming Remarks/
Introductions/
Invocation
1845-1945 Dinner
1945-2000 Break
2000-2100 Speaker &
Award Presentations
2100-UTC Entertainment (Dancing)

Tuesday, Aug. 31

0800-1000 Memorial Breakfast

ARMOR

from page 1A

"When our Soldiers leave here, they will be well prepared for whatever mission the Army needs them to achieve."

Whether it be training dealing with tribal disputes, dismounted foot patrols or Soldiers getting behind a main-tank gun, Hall said it's a great challenge that the Soldiers of 2nd Bn., 34th Armor Regt. have welcomed.

"The training has been great so far," Capt. Phillip M. LaCasse, battalion adjutant said. "We are accustomed to mounted force-on-force, so this training, which is focused on dismounted patrols, is new to us."

"We are doing section, platoon and company level training right now," he said. "It's training on tasks that we expect to see in the upcoming situational training exercises as well as what we expect to see in-country. We expect to learn a lot in this rotation and that is a very good thing"

Hall couldn't agree more, adding that 2nd Bn., 34th Armor Regiment. has been preparing for OIF 3 since July 26th, 2003, with a wide variety of training, and he is happy to be attached with 3rd Bde.

"I'm glad we're going with such a great unit as 3rd Bde.," he said. "We will do great together."

CENTCOM News

MEU, Iraqi National Guard, Soldiers gear up for one team, one fight

FOB DUKE — Sporadic fighting between 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit forces and Anti-Iraqi Forces in the Wadi Al Salam cemetery persists for a sixth day Wednesday, as Marines, U.S. Army Soldiers and Iraqi National Guardsmen continue joint training exercises in preparation for major assaults against enemy forces in the city of Najaf.

Squad-sized enemy elements, seeking sanctuary in buildings and mosques surrounding the holy Imam Ali Shrine, continue to enter the cemetery and engage MEU forces with small arms, RPGs and sniper fire. In addition, enemy forces continue to set up mortar firing positions immediately outside these buildings and mosques, knowing MEU forces are making every effort to ensure the protection of one of Islam's holiest shrines. At about 11 a.m. today, enemy forces were observed staging numerous piles of tires in the streets within the exclusionary zone around the shrine and setting them on fire.

MEU Marines, augmented with Iraqi National Guardsmen from Najaf and other locations, two Army reinforced infantry battalions and one Army aviation battalion — all who now fall under the operational control of the 11th MEU — are currently working together to constitute the force that will conduct these major assaults. MEU training with the ING began several days ago, and will foster an efficient, effective, cohesive team as ING leads the fight in ridding their city of those who break the rules of law and order.

Last night, Marines on a security patrol in the city came under fire. Since Marines did not have positive identification regarding who was shooting at them, they did not return fire. This is demonstrative of the kind of discipline Marines have. Even when attacked, we do not fire indiscriminately. MEU forces are committed to minimizing collateral damage to protect the innocent citizens and infrastructure of Najaf.

Yesterday, MEU forces broadcast messages around the city using loud speakers mounted on vehicles, warning Najaf citizens to leave areas where Anti-Iraqi Forces are operating from or where military operations are being conducted, out of concern for their safety. Marines also warned enemy forces to lay down their weapons, peacefully leave the city or else Iraqi security forces, U.S. Marines and Soldiers will target them.

MEU forces also are currently coordinating with non-governmental agencies for the delivery of medical supplies to local hospitals in Iraq.

"Iraqi and U.S. forces are making final preparations as we get ready to finish this fight that the Muqtada Militia started," said Col. Anthony M. Haslam, commanding officer, 11th MEU. "The desired end state is one of stability and security, where the citizens of Najaf do not live in fear of violence or kidnappings and where the city of Najaf can once again return to peace and prosperity."

Marines assume control of a Najaf, Al Qadisiy AH provinces

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq — I Marine Expeditionary Force assumed control on Monday of the An Najaf and Al Qadisiyah provinces, which include the towns of Najaf, Ad Diwaniyah and Kufa, per the direction of the commander of the Multi-National Forces in Iraq.

Due to commonality in command and control systems, it was determined that the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, which is currently conducting operations in An Najaf, would be better suited to fall under the command of I MEF. This change is largely symbiotic in nature and driven by the desire to increase and enhance the effectiveness of the MNF units in the provinces.

The Polish Army previously controlled these provinces under the command of Multi-National Division Central-South.

I MEF simultaneously retains control of the Al Anbar Province, which it has commanded since March 24.

Three coalition Soldiers receive Purple Hearts

BAGHDAD — Three Office of Security Transition/Multinational Security Transition Command — Iraq servicemen were awarded Purple Hearts Sunday for wounds received Aug. 7 in action at the Al Kasik Military Training Base, roughly 30 miles northwest of Mosul in northern Iraq.

U.S. Army Maj. Thomas B. Case, Marine Corps Capt. Aaron P. Hill, and Marine Corps Staff Sgt. William Rosborough all survived a coordinated attack that included fire from one 122mm rocket, six mortars and a vehicle-born improvised explosive device when Anti-Iraqi Forces attacked the base.

The award is generally given to any member of the U.S. armed forces who receives wounds in any action against an enemy of the United States.

Case and Rosborough received medical attention at

a combat support hospital in Mosul before being taken to a facility in Baghdad. Both are in stable condition and have since been evacuated to Germany for medical treatment. Hill was treated and released for continued duty.

Rosborough additionally received the Bronze Star Medal for his service in Iraq since his arrival in theater in February 2004.

"He's very dedicated," former Al Kasik Military Training Base Commander, U.S. Army Maj. David Kesterson said regarding Rosborough, "and was instrumental in standing up the Al Kasik base," he added.

The Purple Heart was established by Gen. George Washington, Aug. 7, 1782, during America's Revolutionary War.

The Bronze Star Medal was authorized in Feb. 1944, in an executive order by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and is awarded to members of all branches of military service for either combat heroism or meritorious service.

Lt. Gen. David H. Petraeus, commanding general of the Office of Security Transition/Multinational Security Transition Command — Iraq presented the awards.

Multinational forces engineers train Iraqis to build concrete structures

MOSUL — Approximately 20 Iraqi residents from Dahuk Province received instruction from Soldiers with the 133rd Engineer Battalion on how to build concrete structures.

Soldiers from B Company, 133rd Eng. Bn. gave classroom instruction on laying concrete blocks to build solid structures near Habur Gate. After the classroom instruction, the Soldiers and the Iraqis participated in building a structure together.

The class gave the military engineers a chance to teach their skills to a group of Iraqis who will now be able to help in the rebuilding of their country.

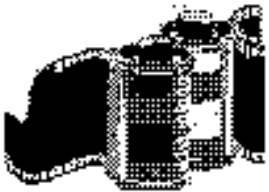
For the engineers, it's like the old proverb: give a man a fish and he will eat for a day; teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime. "We could build the structures for them, but by teaching them to do it themselves, we will enable them to take a role in the rebuilding process," said 1st Lt. Elgee, 133rd.

The Soldiers and the Iraqis celebrated the completion of the class and the project with a small graduation ceremony Aug. 9. This class is the first of many the engineers hope to conduct to prepare Iraqis to participate in the rebuilding of Iraq.



Ft. Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Don't Miss The August 20 Deadline!



**Snap your
family's portrait ...**

then enter it (2 photos per family) in the Army Family Photo Contest by COB **Friday, August 20**. Mail or take your photos to Pam Stanley, FS MWR, Bldg 622. Send digital ones to StanleyP@stewart.army.mil so that FRG leadership can choose 10 finalists.

Be sure to vote for your favorite photo on **Thursday, August 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.**, in the FS PX lobby. Call Stanley, 767-5116, for more information.

Enjoy the free... Missoula Children's Theater presentation of Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs (with local talent). August 14, Woodruff Theater at 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.

2004 Army Festival of the Performing FREE Arts Variety Talent Show August 14, Club Stewart, 7:30 p.m to 10 p.m.

Appointments still available for Professional Family Portraits August 18-20

Appointments only. Call Leisure Activities Bldg., 767-8609. No sitting fee for family portrait.

Get a coupon for free instruction matting/framing class and 5% off supplies with your portrait.

WWE Wrestling at Sports USA



**Sunday,
August 15, at 7 p.m.
Cover charge \$5.00**



Stewart sees a rise in drunk driving

Provost Marshal
Office

Special to The Frontline

In fiscal year 2003 Soldiers, civilians and family members assigned to Fort Stewart were charged with 'Driving Under the Influence' 205 times. As of this issue of the Frontline there have already been 218 arrests for 'DUI' during fiscal year 2004.

Listed below are other "sobering" statistics regarding this deadly practice.

- Total traffic fatalities (2003) – 42,850

- Alcohol-related – 17,970 (42 percent of total) (49 per day) (1 every 30 minutes), a 6.1 percent 1-year increase; third consecutive annual increase.

- Highest blood alcohol concentration in alcohol-related fatalities:

- .01 percent — .07 percent — 2,335

- higher — 15,635

- Average BAC of most intoxicated drivers involved in alcohol related fatal crashes — .16 percent

- Estimated alcohol related traffic injuries per year — 513,000 (1 per minute)

How to be a Perfect Host or Hostess

- Have plenty of non-alcoholic drinks available.

- Don't encourage or force guests to drink

alcohol.

- Provide plenty of food so guests won't drink on an empty stomach.

- Remember to designate before you celebrate. Arrange a designated driver for those who are drinking alcohol.

- Never serve alcohol to people under age 21.

- If preparing an alcoholic punch, use a non-carbonated base such as fruit juice. Alcohol is absorbed into the blood stream faster when it has a carbonated base.

- Close your bar 90 minutes before your party is over and serve a great dessert treat and coffee, tea or soft drinks.

- Be honest. When inviting guests who are known to drink to excess, tell them that drinking and driving is unacceptable at your party. Get their agreement to find alternate modes of transportation.

- Activities and entertainment should be scheduled to keep the focus on celebrating a special occasion not drinking. Singing along with musical accompaniment, party games and board games for all ages are socially acceptable and fun!

How to Report a Drunk Driver

Call the police or 911 or 1-800-28DRUNK. Once connected with a law enforcement agency, provide them with the following information:

- Tell them you wish to report a suspected drunk driver.

- Give the exact location (identify road and direction) of the vehicle.

- Give a complete description of the vehicle, such as make, model, color, license number, etc.

- Describe the manner in which the vehicle is being driven.

What NOT to Do

- Do not attempt to stop the vehicle.

- Do not attempt to follow if the vehicle is exceeding the posted limit or if any other hazard may exist due to following the vehicle.

- Do not disregard any traffic signals in an attempt to keep the driver in view.

- Do not follow the drunk driver too closely, they may stop suddenly.

- Do not get so engrossed in following the drunk driver that you begin weaving in the road with the drunk driver.

- Do not attempt to detain the drunk driver if they stop.

- Do not attempt to act in the capacity of any police, fire or medical person unless you are properly trained and authorized to perform that function.

- Do not attempt to assist any law enforcement officer while they are apprehending a drunk driver unless requested.

ASK THE JUDGE

Steps to Dispute Credit Reports

Capt. Jacob Lilly

Special to The Frontline

Q: I'm worried about my credit. What should I know about credit reporting and repair?

A: Do you get nervous every time you hear a salesperson say, "I just have to do a routine credit check, then we'll have a deal and you'll have a new dining room set/car/apartment?" To many of us, a credit report is a mysterious creature that seems to appear out of mid-air. Do you know what is on your credit report? Do you want to?

Information contained in credit reports can be anything related to your credit standing, including credit card accounts, student loans, car loans, and home mortgages. Credit Reporting Agencies are governed by the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, which provides consumers with several rights and remedies.

First, the FCRA outlines permissible parties to whom credit information may be released. A CRA may furnish a credit report to another person or agency if it reasonably believes that the requester is going to use the information in extending credit, insurance, or employment, or for legitimate business needs, such as a landlord leasing property. The only other instances in which a CRA is allowed to provide your credit information are with your consent, or in response to a federal grand jury, court order

or subpoena.

Second, the FCRA requires that obsolete adverse information can be deleted from your credit report. A bankruptcy adjudication becomes obsolete after 10 years. All other adverse information is obsolete after seven years. Third, the FCRA provides you with the opportunity to dispute and correct a report that contains obsolete or inaccurate information. Once you have submitted a written complaint to the CRA, it must investigate your dispute within a reasonable time, usually 30-35 days. If the information is determined to be inaccurate, or if it cannot be verified, it must be corrected or removed from your report.

If the CRA determines that the information is accurate, yet you still dispute the item, you have a right to submit a 100 word statement providing your explanation or version of the facts, and the CRA must include that statement on your report. After your report has been corrected or annotated with your statement, the CRA must furnish the updated report to any party that you specifically identify and which has requested or received your report in the previous six months. If the CRA fails to comply with the FCRA, either willfully or negligently, you can file a lawsuit and recover for the actual money damages you incurred because of the noncompliance. Finally, what neither the FCRA, nor any legitimate enti-

ty can do is "repair" poor credit. The concepts of "erasing" and "cleaning up" credit are myths that can be a dangerous, costly, and even criminal undertaking. No one can change the fact that negative credit information is properly included in your report for seven years. There are no loopholes, no magic words.

What some "credit repair" agencies offer is a "new" credit identify, providing you with an Employer Identification Number to use instead of your social security number, a new address or even a new name. It is illegal to provide false information, to misrepresent any facts, and to omit negative credit experiences on a credit report. Furthermore, the "money back guarantee" these agencies may offer is worthless. The guarantee probably cannot be enforced because the entire agreement is illegal or because enterprises such as these do not tend to stay in business under the same name long enough for you to collect your money back.

The first step in shrinking the "credit report" monster down to size is to request a copy of your credit report. Any of the credit reporting agencies can provide this to you either online or through the mail. This report will allow you to understand where your debts are and what areas need to be addressed. Remember the only way to repair bad credit is to build a history of good credit.

POLICE REPORTS

• **Subject:** Private 2, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
• **Charges:** Drunken driving, driving wrong way on one way street
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 30-year-old male, 1st Bde.
• **Charges:** Speeding 89/55, drunken driving
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Civilian, 21-year-old male
• **Charges:** Driving while license revoked, speeding 58/40
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, 4th Bde.
• **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old female, Div. Spt. Bde.
• **Charge:** Child neglect
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 25-year-old male, 4th Bde.
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of hashish, wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Loysville, Pa.

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, 4th Bde.
• **Charge:** Possession, consumption by a minor
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
• **Charges:** Driving on expired registration, driving with expired insurance, driving with suspended drivers license, using private property as thoroughfare
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
• **Charges:** Wrongful appropriation of private motor vehicle, larceny of private property
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 25-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana, wrongful use of cocaine
• **Location:** Hunter

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 21-year-old male, 1st Bde.
• **Charge:** Simple battery



• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old female, 4th Bde.
• **Charge:** Deposit account fraud
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, Sustainment UA
• **Charges:** Disorderly conduct, simple battery on a police officer
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Private 2, 21-year-old male, Aviation Bde.
• **Charges:** Driving on suspension or revocation, unsafe turning movements
• **Location:** Hunter

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
• **Charges:** Reckless endangerment with a firearm, obstruction of justice, failure to obey order or regulation
• **Location:** Hunter

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 33-year-old male, 1st Bde.
• **Charge:** Stalking
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
• **Charge:** Simple assault consummated by a battery

• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 32-year-old female, Div. Spt. Bde.
• **Charges:** Improper right turn, improper parking
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 57-year-old male• **Charges:** Failure to maintain lane, failure to restrain child in safety seat, failure to wear safety belt
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 2, 20-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
• **Charges:** Simple assault on a civilian law enforcement officer, obstructing or resisting law enforcement officer, obstruction or hindering law enforcement officer
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Lance Corporal, 20-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Manufacture, selling, distribution or false identification, giving false name/address to law enforcement officer, obstruction, hindering, open container, underage drinking
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Specialist, 19-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Driving under the influence, failure to maintain lane

• **Location:** Statesboro

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 4th Bde.
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of cocaine, wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 42-year-old male, MED HOLD Battalion
• **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
• **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
• **Charges:** Contempt of court, probation violation
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old female, 4th Bde.
• **Charge:** Shoplifting
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 28-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
• **Charges:** Driving under the influence, reckless driving
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
• **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding up to 10 mph over posted speed limit, consumption of alcohol by a minor
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private 2, 20-year-old female, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Driving under the influence underage, failure to maintain lane
• **Location:** Pembroke

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 26-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
• **Charges:** Reckless driving, thoroughfare violation
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Civilian, 35-year-old male
• **Charges:** Possession of counterfeit drivers license
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Corporal, 25-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charge:** Driving under the influence
• **Location:** Hinesville

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Women's Equality
Women's Equality Day Observance Program will be held 11:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 26 at Club Stewart.
For more information contact your Equality Opportunity Advisor or call 767-7181 for tickets.

Indebtedness claim
Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the este of Spc. Mathew R. Hance, HHC, 3/7 Inf., Fort Stewart, Ga., contact 1st Lt. Jeffrey Harmon at 767-7703.

Fall sign up
Officers' Spouse Club cordially invites you to a fun filled evening Aug. 31, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Club Stewart.
For table reservations or more information contact Kelley McCulley at 368-1653/659-0252

or Rachel Curry at 448-2140.

Indebtedness claim
Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the este of Spc. Justin Joyner, HHC Co, 1/64 Arm., Fort Stewart, GA 31314, contact 1st Lt. Erik Balascik, at 767-7736.

Indebtedness claim
Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the este of Spc. Andrew L. Tuazon, 293rd MP Co, Fort Stewart, GA 31313, contact 1st Lt. Braden Stai, 293rd MP Co, Fort Stewart, GA 31314, at 767-2186.

Troops to Teachers
Interested in becoming a teacher? Visit the Army Education Center, Bldg 130, on Wednesday for Troops to Teachers brief, noon to 1 p.m. Call 767-8331 for information.

Hunter

Soccer registration
DMWR is conducting registration for youth soccer. Registrants should contact 352-5851 to register and/or for additional information.
The league is co-ed and is for youths ages 5-12.

Road Closing
Cook Blvd. between Billy Mitchell Blvd. and Stephen Douglas Street will be permanently closed beginning Monday.
This is necessary to facilitate the construction of new ranger barracks complex. Alternate routes are available. Road closure signs will be posted.

Career Workshop
Workshop is schedule for Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. The purpose is t discuss the impor-

tance of education, free tuition and short-term traing for job placement and more. Call Rosa Oates at 352-6816.

Recycle your computer
Recycle your computer, television and other technology hardware for free
Office Depot Stores will accept televisions, computers, peripherals, and other electronic equipment for recycling during regular store hours July 18 through Sept. 6 at all stores in the continental U.S. There is no charge for the program.
There is a limit of one computer system (pc, monitor, keyboard, mouse) or one product (such as PDA or cell phone) per customer per day.
For program details go to www.officedepot.com/recycle.

Winn /Tuttle

Patient Affairs Relocated
The Patient Affairs Branch has relocated to building 301, co-located with the Health Benefits Office. The phone numbers have remained the same.
For more information, call 370-6893.

New TRICARE Number
The new TRICARE phone number is 1-800-444-5445. The Health Benefits Office can still be reached at 370-6637.

Update DEERS
Beneficiaries must keep their DEERS information up-to-date or they may not be able to receive referrals, schedule appointments or access TRICARE Online. Winn and Tuttle use DEER S information to contact you regarding referrals and appointments.

DEERS information can be updated by calling 1-800-538-9552, visiting www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm

EDIS
EDIS is now located next to the main pharmacy in Winn. Military families with children up to 3 years old who may be at risk for developmental delays can call Educational and Development Intervention Services for a free screening.
For more information, call 370-6349.

PX Pharmacy
The PX Satellite Pharmacy is now open for full service business. Patients may fill new prescriptions and refill prescriptions here 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Marne TV

August 2004
Schedule

Marne TV can be found on Comcast Cable Channel 16 every weekday.
Tune in to the Marne Report six times a day for the latest from Stewart and Hunter.

5 a.m. Army Newswatch
5:30 a.m. MARNE REPORT
6:30 a.m. Air Force News
7 a.m. Navy News
7:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
8 a.m. MARNE REPORT
9 a.m. Air Force News
9:30 a.m. Navy News
11:30 a.m. Army Newswatch

Noon MARNE REPORT
1 p.m. Air Force News
4:30 p.m. Navy News
5 p.m. MARNE REPORT
6 p.m. Army Newswatch
6:30 p.m. Air Force News
7 p.m. Navy News
10 p.m. MARNE REPORT
11 p.m. Army Newswatch
Midnight MARNE REPORT



Photos by Pfc. Dan Balda

A Soldier posing as an Iraqi national escorting the media is patted down for weapons by a member of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry unit.

Spc. Emily J. Danial
Staff Writer

Soldiers in A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment had a chance to hone their battlefield skills during a training exercise at Fort Stewart's firing point 74 August 3-5.

Arriving at the training site in the afternoon, the Soldiers immediately got to work.

For the first part of the exercise, they had to practice stopping and searching vehicles and their occupants.

"This is definitely pertinent to what we're going to be doing in Iraq," said Spc. Casey Enos, a 3/7 rifleman. "It's important to establish a unit (standard operating procedure)."

The company broke up into squads, and each squad had the opportunity to participate in the training on its own.

Afterwards, some of the unit's noncommissioned officers, along with Capt. Ike Sallee, company commander, conducted an after-action review for the Soldiers to show them what they did wrong, what they did right, and how to do it all better.

"The AAR is really helpful because it's good to hear what



A Soldier poses as an Iraqi national escorting the media while members of the 3 battalion, 7th infantry ask him questions.

the scenario in Iraq would really be like, from people who've already been there," Enos said.

The Soldiers began training as soon as their feet hit the ground at the site, and according to Sallee, the lack of break time did serve a purpose.

"We have to make our bodies accustomed to the heat," he said. "If we start out fatigued, it's more like the real experiences we'll have when we get to Iraq."

"It's going very well so far," he said. "Our focus is on a pla-

toon or squad level, and we're allowing the squad leaders and team leaders to set up training on their own timeline."

"We're concentrating on the exercises we'll be doing for Marne Focus, like how to set up a road block and how to enter and clear a room," he said.

Sallee said about 60 percent of the company had deployed for Operation Iraq Freedom's first rotation.

"The Soldiers who did go are setting a great example for the others," he said.

Pfc. Patrick Spalding, assault gunner, was one of the Soldiers who hasn't been to Iraq previously, and said the veterans in his company were a big help to him and others who haven't yet experienced combat.

"They really watch out for us," he said. "They help out, tell us when we screw up ... there's a lot of good Soldiers in this company."

Sallee added, "Our success is defined by our ability to adapt, because the situation is always changing."

Stewart and Hunter ...

Town hall meetings address community concerns

Pfc. Ricardo Branch
Staff Writer

The members of the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities recently had a chance to meet with a panel of post officials at their respective installations to address issues concerning them.

Stewart's town hall meeting was held at Club Stewart Aug. 5.

Stewart Garrison Commander Col. John Kidd opened the meeting, which focused primarily on construction and renovation projects around Stewart and Hunter, as well as the division's future deployment to Iraq.

This is a very busy time with new units, the reorganization, mobilization, and expanding of 3rd Infantry Division all happening at Fort Stewart, said Stewart Garrison Commander Col. John Kidd.

"With 3rd Infantry Division supplying the bulk of the combat force for the next rotation of Operation Iraqi Freedom, we're starting to look at programs and facilities to put on both the instal-

lations to make life easier for the people here," he said.

Beginning with solicited ideas, Morale, Welfare and Recreation and other affiliated groups plan to start leisure trips for the Soldiers families remaining on Stewart while their spouses are deployed to OIF 3.

The post is also undertaking a project to construct a new elementary school to help take off the burden of students from Diamond and Brittin elementary schools, Kidd said.

Housing availability will also improve soon, according to Kidd, as the field where a new community is to be built has been cleared, and the first 14 homes should be completed in time for Soldier's and their families to move into this November followed by another 30 per month until there are 600.

The first area under construction is Liberty Woods followed by Southern Oaks, said Col. Michael Biering, Directorate of Public Works.

Biering also said that this year's constructions on Stewart and

Hunter are helping to better the military communities at both installations, and that the construction will expand.

MWR will also be releasing a survey soon for the Army families living on Stewart to see how families are satisfied with their housing, Army benefits, MWR and medical needs to determine ways to better the lifestyles and serve the needs of the families on post.

Col. Joe Barthel, Winn Army Community Hospital director, announced that Winn has recently opened their preventive medicine building, and that the new CTMC is on schedule for it's opening later this fall.

Among the audience's concerns were adequate resources for behavioral-needs children.

Barthel said that he is trying to recruit more child psychiatrists to Hinesville, but described the process as difficult, given the moderate pay and the high standards he demands of applicants.

Kidd then wrapped up the Stewart meeting addressing most of the concerns, as well as leaving with some future ones to have

handled prior to the next town hall meeting.

"These town hall meetings are an opportunity to get the command together to hear from the post community and to solicit ideas and receive ideas to make our community a better place," Kidd said. "Mostly though, it's to affirm our pledge to make things as good as possible for the families and Soldiers as Stewart gets mobilized again."

Hunter's town hall meeting was held at the Army Community Service building Aug. 3.

Presided over by Lt. Col. Jeffrey J. Goble, Hunter garrison commander, the meeting addressed many concerns of the community revolving mainly about poor lawn care and landscaping from GMH subcontractor Tidewater, and medical appointments at Tuttle Health Clinic.

"A lot of people have issues about not being able to schedule appointments and seeing doctors on post," said Stephanie Rolston, mayor of Gannam Heights housing area.

"Some people have had to go

off post," Rolston added.

Lt. Col. Glen Tomkins, Hunter Tuttle Health Clinic director, said there has been a staff shortage, which they are trying to work through, as well as a transition in the Army's medical system, but things will get better.

A three-year, \$150 million construction project on Hunter is also currently underway, which includes two new housing areas, and a new sports and fitness complex, said Hunter garrison commander Lt. Col. Jeffrey J. Goble.

Diane McCreary, Gannam Heights resident, said, "This was a much better meeting. People were much more constructive with their questions and complaints."

"I feel more things will be accomplished from this meeting tonight — and it only lasted an hour and a half."

Rolston, reflecting on the few residents in attendance, added, "Things will get accomplished when more people show up (to the meeting) and voice their opinions."

CFC invites Soldiers to make a difference

Spc. Emily J. Danial
Staff Writer

As fall approaches, there is one thought going through every Soldier's mind that is almost audible: "How can I give money to all of my favorite charitable organizations in a quick, easy and convenient way, while also contributing to an installation-wide fundraising effort?"

Thanks to the Combined Federal Campaign, this question can be answered practically before it is asked.

"With a tradition of commitment to the community through the selfless efforts of Federal employees, the CFC has its roots in the many charitable campaigns of the early 1960's," said Karen Blackard, local CFC coordinator. "Seeing a need to bring the diversity of fundraising efforts under one umbrella, federal employees created the CFC — one campaign, once a year."

This "umbrella" makes it possible for Soldiers to donate to as many nationally-registered organizations as they desire with very little effort on their part.

Every September, unit representatives are sent out to educate Soldiers about CFC and explain how to donate — for those Soldiers who hadn't thought about giving to CFC, maybe it's just because they don't know enough about it and the benefits they could receive for just a few dollars a month.

"The CFC is the only authorized solici-

tation of employees in the federal workplace on behalf of charitable organizations," Blackard explained. "Charitable giving is a uniquely American characteristic. In some respects, it is a patriotic as a soldier's service to our country ... our Soldiers give to CFC, not only because they know that participating organizations are carefully scrutinized, but also because they care about others and the world around them."

When a Soldier fills out the CFC donation form, the amount of money he chooses to contribute is taken directly out of his pay on a monthly basis, according to Capt. Barbara Gray, Hunter Army Airfield CFC coordinator.

"Payroll deduction makes it convenient for you to give by letting you spread your contribution across the entire year," Blackard said. "Last year, more than 90 percent of all CFC funds raised were given through payroll deduction."

For Soldiers who have car payments, cell phone bills and other common payroll allotments to handle every month, 10 or 15 dollars would hardly be missed.

"If you can afford two cups of coffee per month from Starbucks, that's 10 dollars you

can afford to give to charity," Gray said. "You'll also get a receipt with your donation, and that's good for a tax deduction."

In 2004, the Office of Personnel Management approved the expansion of our local campaign to include Bulloch, Candler, Evans, Emanuel, Jenkins, Long, McIntosh, Montgomery, Screven, Tattnall, Toombs, and Treutlen counties to our existing four-county campaign, according to Blackard.

"For the past twenty-two years, federal employees of Bryan, Chatham, Effingham, and Liberty counties have given selflessly through Coastal Georgia Combined Federal Campaign," she said.

The Fort Stewart and Hunter CFC kickoffs are scheduled for the beginning of September, and in addition to the warm, fuzzy feeling Soldiers can get from donating to worthy causes — such as the



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*"A contribution
brings the hero
out in you."*

**Contact your CFC
representative to
give 'til it helps!**

Building from the ground up

Tankers prepare to make their mark as infantrymen

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

We hear a lot about the rich histories of some units and companies. We have listened to stories about the past heroes of battalions and batteries. But there is a story that has yet to be told, and the beginnings of a history that is right now in the making.

It belongs to D Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment (Mechanized).

Three months ago, it simply didn't exist. It had no Soldiers, no leaders, not even a building. But since the brigade (modular) concept has reappeared, companies of Soldiers with various types of jobs — such as tank infantry, engineering, and forward support — are being pulled together into battalions.

D Co., fronted by Capt. Craig Gibson and 1st Sgt. Joseph G. Bulick, is made up completely of tankers who are straight out of Basic Combat Training. The company has been operational for only a month and a half.

Having started out with only Bulick, Gibson and five Soldiers, this company has come a long way, Bulick said. It has grown to 54 now, only a matter of weeks later.

When they first arrived at what was to be their building, an old aid station, they got started right away. They became carpenters, building and painting from the bottom up, he said.

Bulick is the only one in the company who is infantry. D Co. is his fifth company,

his most recent assignment being in Korea. He has a light infantry background, so when he was asked if he would be willing to train a tanker company to be infantrymen, he knew it would be a challenge, he said.

But it was a challenge he was ready for. And after seeing the Soldiers “growing leaps and bounds” over the past couple of months, he said he had come to feel like a proud parent.

“We have to come up with resourceful methods of training. We go down to the TSIRT lane all the time,” Bulick said.

Bulick added that the company has also been training on clearing and entering buildings using abandoned structures he happened to find on post.

“The Soldiers are really getting into it. The platoon sergeants are giving us support, and we're starting to piece things together,” he said.

“I think it's a really good opportunity,” said Pvt. David Grega, 3/7 Inf. Soldier. “Most other companies are all set up, but

here, everyone's the new guy, so we're all learning. We built this company.”

“There's more of a sense of pride in building it ourselves,” Grega continued.

“Everything you do is the first time it's been done; everything has a meaning to it.”

With only a matter of months to train these tanker troops to be foot Soldiers, it could be under-standable if the company first sergeant might be a little nervous about their preparation for Iraq. But Bulick is convinced.

“I know they're going to be prepared,” he said. “I will not sleep until they're prepared. I'm going to bring these kids back in one piece.”

Over the months of growth and orientation, the company has showed great strides in preparing Soldiers for the mission, Gibson said.

“We're a young company in experience level,” he said, “but everyone in the company has a positive attitude. They're ready and willing to learn new things that they haven't been trained for, and they're eager to learn the different skills.”

A tank company is a small group, and because of this, it's much easier to get to know the Soldiers better, Bulick said. This is a big change for him, since his last company was a headquarters company with 300 troops.

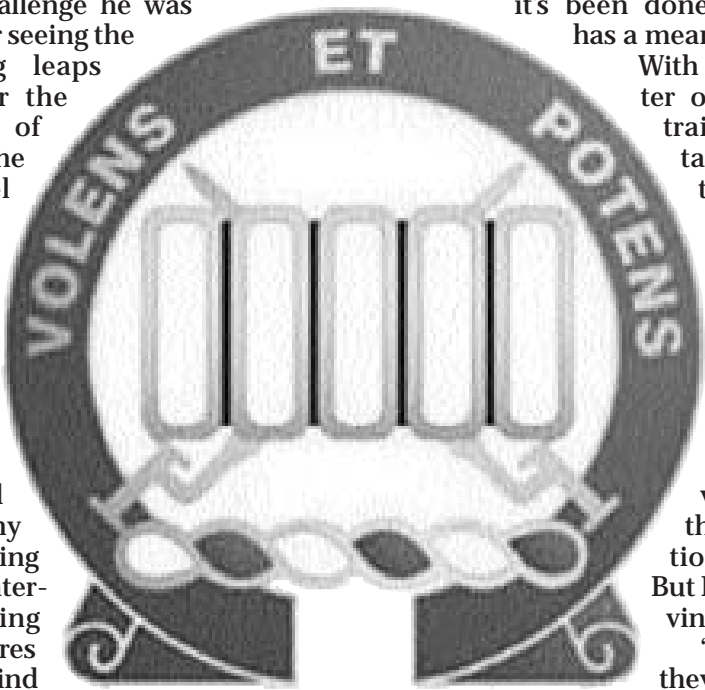
Command and control is easier with a small company, he said, but the limited resources and seemingly crammed training for D Co. are what's tough.

“I need to remember to apply what I did as a drill sergeant — to have a little patience — rather than the tough methods I used in ranger training,” Bulick said.

Although at first many of the tankers were taken aback that they wouldn't have tanks, they have come to realize the mission as a whole, Gibson said.

“We're utilizing all types of resources to be able to train on different tasks. It's a challenge, but we're ready for it. We're excited,” he said. “This has been an experience I'll never forget, and I'm sure these guys will never forget.”

“We are writing the history of this company right now, and it's a privilege,” Grega said. “We really want to put our best foot forward. We're doing things tankers have never done, and we're going to surprise a lot of people. I love it.”





Sgt. Christina Rockhill

Spc. Randall Archie, A Co., 91st Eng. Bn., uses a remote control to navigate the MARC bot.

Robots help Soldiers in Iraq

Sgt. Christina Rockhill

Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division are using robots from the Rapid Equipping Force to help them on their patrols.

Soldiers of A Company, 91st Engineer Battalion have been using the multi-functional advanced remote control on their daily patrols to sweep the streets of Baghdad for improvised explosive devices.

The MARC Bot, which resembles a large remote controlled car, has all-terrain wheels and a retractable arm with a wireless camera attached to it. The operator of the robot uses the remote control to navigate the MARC Bot closer to a possible IED. Then by watching a monitor on the controller, he can determine whether or not it is an IED.

Sgt. 1st Class Chad Carpenter, Rapid Equipping Force, said the increased distance between the

Soldier and the IED is an obvious advantage when dealing with explosives.

“It allows stand-off from IEDs, for Soldiers to go ahead and detect them, which does two things,” he said. “Number one it helps save their lives in case the thing goes off, and number two, if it’s not an IED it will allow them to go ahead, get it off the road and continue the mission rather than blocking [the road] off and waiting for [an explosive ordnance disposal team].” Spc. Randall Archie is the MARC Bot operator for Company A, 91 ENG, and said that the MARC Bot not only saves lives, it also saves time and embarrassment.

“It’s kind of embarrassing whenever you call EOD and sit around blocking off a main road for an hour or two hours waiting for them to get out there, and then they show up and it’s just a bag of trash,” he said. Archie said even though his crew hasn’t found any IEDs with the robot, he said it’s more effective than the usual tools they use.

“It allows us to get eyes on,” he said. “With this you’re right on it. It makes it a lot nicer.”

“It’s kind of weird at first but once they get used to it they love it,” Carpenter said.

Maj. Carlos Munson, the 1st Cav. Div. Rapid Equipping Force Liaison, said the \$3,000 MARC Bot is operator friendly and easy to use.

“Initially [the Soldiers] are a little nervous because the robots are expensive, but once they got the tactics, techniques and procedures down for utilizing a robot, the patrols tend to be more confident and able to identify a suspect IED,” he said.

Munson said they have only lost a couple of robots from explosions, but said it’s better than losing a couple of Soldiers.

“In the past, a lot of Soldiers have gotten injured by walking up on suspect IEDs to check them out,” he said. “This way if the IED blows up, the only thing that’s hurt is the robot and we can easily replace a robot.”

Army ups bonuses

New incentives on the way mean Soldiers entering the Army get more in their pockets

Sgt. Lorie Jewell

Army News Service

FORT KNOX, Ky. — The Army is beefing up cash bonus programs for new recruits and allowing them to collect from a combination of programs they qualify for.

Meeting the right criteria could net a recruit as much as \$15,000 for a three-year enlistment and \$20,000 for signing up for four years in some high-priority jobs, said Douglas Smith, public affairs officer for the U.S. Army Recruiting Command.

The maximum available for qualifying recruits going into non-priority military occupational specialties for three years is \$10,000, he said.

Three-year enlistment bonuses were previously capped at \$6,000.

“The fastest way to reach the maximum is to ship quickly, have some college, and pick the right MOS,” Smith said.

Recruiting and retention rates are holding steady despite concerns about current operations straining the force, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker told reporters in a Pentagon briefing last month. The active Army is projected to reach 100 percent of its recruiting goal for the current fiscal year, Schoomaker said.

But with recruiting being a key tool in the Army’s effort to grow the force by 50,000 Soldiers, Schoomaker said officials would continue looking at ways to keep the rates on target - including bonuses.

Enlisting for at least three years in a critical-need job - infantryman (11X) or cannon crewmember (13B), for instance - and reporting to basic training by Sept. 27 brings a \$6,000 bonus to qualifying recruits, Smith said. The bonus is \$9,000 for high-priority jobs like fire support specialist (13F), petroleum supply specialist (92F) or food service operations (92G), with the same report date.

“That’s a limited time bonus that could roll over or change, depending on the needs of the Army,” Smith said.

College education can earn a qualified recruit even more money. A bachelor’s degree could net an \$8,000 bonus; associate or two-year degrees, a \$7,000 bonus; \$6,000 for high school graduates with 60 or more semester hours; and \$3,000 for 30 to 59 semester hours.

The Army previously offered bonuses of \$3,000 and \$6,000 for college-level education, Smith said.

Under the Civilian Acquired Skill program, having certain civilian job skills can bring a qualified recruit a \$3,000 bonus.

Additional information about the bonus programs is available from a local Army recruiter or at the recruiting command’s web site: www.goarmy.com.

“If Soldiers know of anyone who is interested in joining, this is a good time to enlist,” Smith said.